

APPROVED: Meeting No. 08-94

ATTEST: *Paula Jewell*

MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND  
Meeting No. 04-93

January 31, 1994

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in Worksession in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, on January 31, 1994, at 7:35 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor James F. Coyle

Councilmember Robert E. Dorsey

Councilmember Rose G. Krasnow

Councilmember James T. Marrinan

Councilmember Nina A. Weisbroth

In attendance: City Manager Bruce Romer, Assistant City Manager Cheryl Lampkin and City Clerk Paula Jewell.

Re: Worksession with Advisory  
Commission on Public  
Education

Robert Ekman, Chairperson, and Commission members Lee Burstyn, Lynn Fox, Richard Rothenberg and Izione Silva discussed the following with the Mayor and Council:

ACPE Background Report

Mr. Ekman commented that the report prepared by Cheryl Lampkin was excellent and addressed some of the problems the Commission had experienced; he reported that the current Commission has a good working relationship.

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Councilmember Krasnow noted that ACPE was originally started with a definite objective; they were very involved in the 1980s school closing issue, and it was felt at that time, the City should be more involved in educational issues and more visible to the County. Ms. Krasnow noted the issue now at hand was whether the ACPE still had a mission.

Mr. Rothenberg said it had been difficult to focus on what ACPE should and can do for education in the City and had problems finding a vehicle to attract people to ACPE. He remarked that there was a need for ACPE's Charter to be revised as Montgomery County public schools have crossed the line over into social issues which affect schools.

Mr. Ekman added that boundary changes and school closings were not occurring; citizens were no longer concerned with these as issues.

Mayor Coyle remarked that the City was also trying to play a role with the growing diverse populations in the City. Councilmember Krasnow commented that more parents were taking their children out of Rockville schools and placing them into other County schools not within the City.

Ms. Fox said she understood ACPE's focus was on networking and communicating to the citizens on school issues and also building bridges between the schools and the Mayor and Council. She said this focus seemed to discontinue when ACPE members dropped out. She noted that ACPE had produced some videotaped educational forums.

Mr. Ekman noted that school contacts did provide a resource although they have not been as strong; he suggested the question was how ACPE could provide resources to the schools.

Councilmember Weisbroth questioned which needs were appropriate to facilitate; she said that every need may not be appropriate for the City of Rockville to take part in.

Councilmember Dorsey asked how the citizens perceived ACPE. He questioned whether the focus of ACPE could be to address the general education needs of the public with less emphasis on the schools, and then report back to the citizens on these needs.

Councilmember Krasnow suggested that ACPE be refocused to look towards youth and family issues and determine what the needs were that could be addressed by the City or some other organizations.

Mayor Coyle commented on the Mayor and Council's plans to appoint a task force to look at community and social issues; what they are, what role the City could play in finding public sector support.

Mayor Coyle said ACPE could further discuss ideas they could continue to do, e.g., educational forums. He said the Mayor and Council would look at the larger social and community related issues as they relate with other commissions and plan to meet again later with ACPE.

Councilmember Marrinan suggested the ACPE sit down with school principals, PTA representatives to get some ideas and talk about the role of the City of Rockville might play in facilitating discussions on violence; the issue of community education versus public education, and the supportive forces that help schools to grow.

Ms. Fox suggested that the ACPE get other key players involved from the Recreation and Parks Department, schools, PTAs, etc.

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Upon motion made, duly seconded, with Mayor Coyle, Councilmembers Dorsey, Krasnow, Marrinan and Weisbroth voting "aye," the Mayor and Council convened in Executive Session at 8:30 p.m., pursuant to Section 10-508(a)(1)(i) of the State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, to discuss personnel issues.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m., to convene again in Worksession on February 7, 1994 at 7:30 p.m.